**Assigned Journal #2** Cody Kala

Describe a community interaction that you see evidence of (either direct or indirect).

When my partner and I went to Kailua beach for my second observation, we saw a variety of different relations between the organisms and their niches. We noted a possible predator-prey relationship between the birds and fish. There was also the possibility of the mongoose against the other organisms in the area (they eat anything they can find at Kailua).

When I arrived to the stream, the first thing I noticed was that the birds were in abundance, perching themselves on the bridge. They had been doing that the last time I came here, staying near the edge of the water and sometimes even toying with the fish. Then I noticed over a period of time that when the birds weren’t there the fish were using the entire stream’s space rather than staying clumped in the middle. And when the fish were in the middle, you could hardly see them due to the murkiness of the water. I think the fact that the fish reacted to the presence of the birds showed that they were locked in a predator-prey relationship.

Some of the relationships I saw between the organisms included the bond between coral, algae, and fish. There was also the bond between the plants and the insects that lived on/in the trees. The bond between the coral and the algae was mutual, as both sides benefited from it other’s presence. But when the fish was added, it seemed that the fish could be in a commensalism or parasitic relationship with the coral. It could possibly be using the coral for only the shelter that it provides, but there is the possibility that some of the fish eat the algae off the coral for food.

The birds are the only species that I could observe that competed for food with one another. They were scavengers, getting whatever food they could find. They looked in garbage cans, on the ground, in the water – anywhere they could find a potential source of nutrition. Same thing goes for the mongoose and the fish that live in the area. All of these organisms have adapted to eating just about anything they can find, which has put in a position to compete with one another.

Though there doesn’t appear too much going on at Kailua, I’m positive that life is flourishing and declining for the species there. Some will thrive, and others will die out over time due to the changes that will take place at the beach (constant erosion of beaches is pushing back the shoreline. At some point in time, the stream that’s blocked off by a small sand dune will be reconnected to the ocean, allowing new organisms to enter the environment and alter it to their liking (if they can survive it).